

SECRET
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Argentina/Yugoslavia

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DATE DISTR. 24 June 1948

SUBJECT Endeavor of Yugoslav Communist Leaders in Argentina to Include Serbs in Yugoslav Communism

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The Yugoslav Legation in Buenos Aires, which is currently accelerating its plans for possible underground operations as a result of its fear that anti-Communist repressive measures may soon be undertaken in Argentina, is making strong efforts to bring the Serbs into the Yugoslav Communist fold.
2. Approximately one year ago, recognizing that the Yugoslav Communists in Argentina included all regional Yugoslav groups except Serbs, Franj Pirc, Yugoslav Minister in Buenos Aires, directed Yugoslav Labor Attache Dalibor Soldatic to expand Communism in the local Serb colony. Soldatic has been largely responsible for the successful enlargement of the Serbian Obilic Society, which has its headquarters at Calle Londres 1249 in Dock Sud, suburb of Buenos Aires.
3. Pirc is reportedly still anxious about the Serbs' being unprepared to go underground if the necessity arises. Antonio Paparella, President of Yugoslavia Libre, recently sent instructions to all branches of his organization to recruit new members for the Obilic Society. All Yugoslav Communists in Argentina were requested to submit the names of local Serbs who were not known to have become affiliated with the Slav Communist movement. A recruiting campaign was systematically initiated under the direction of specially appointed agents.
4. Pirc is holding Paparella responsible for the successful completion of the current campaign. By 1 August 1948 Paparella is to have recruited at least 100 new Serb Communist members, not including fellow-travelers or juveniles.
5. It is reported that terroristic methods, such as destruction of private property, arson, and denunciations to the police, are being employed to bring the right-wing Serb element into line and to prevent active opposition.

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